

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A.P.A.R.T. Website Evaluation Guide

Use these guidelines to take a web page A.P.A.R.T. to determine if you are using is a reliable source. Give a rating to each area, and then decide if it is a valid source of information.

URL \_\_\_\_\_

Authority	Rating
Who is the author or responsible party? (Look at the "about us" page if necessary).	<input type="checkbox"/> Credible
Does the responsible party have qualifications that would make him/her an expert in the field? What is his/her occupation, experience, education?	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Credible
Is the website on a domain connected to a university (.edu) or the government (.gov) that you can surmise would have reliable information?	

Purpose/Objectivity	Rating
Is the purpose of the site clear? (to sell something, to provide information, to persuade you to believe something)	<input type="checkbox"/> Biased
Are the sponsors of the information easy to identify, and do they have a stake in the information? For example, would health information provided lead you to buy a supplement they sell?	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Biased
Is there only one side of an argument presented? Read carefully because sometimes an opinion can appear to be factual.	
Is there an alternative source that you can use to provide the other side of the argument? What is it?	

Accuracy	Rating
Are there obvious errors on the page (spelling, grammar) that would lead you to feel that there was little care taken to provide this information?	Accurate
Is the information on the site researched and documented?	Not Accurate
Does the author use reliable and legitimate sources to get his/her information?	

Relevance of Information	Rating
Does the information help me answer my research questions?	Useful
Is it written at an appropriate level for me (not too easy or hard)?	Not Useful

Timeliness	Rating
Is the website current and updated regularly? Based on the kind of information you seek, is the information still valuable if there hasn't been a recent update?	Timely
Do the links work?	Not Timely

**Final Decision:**

Use the site \_\_\_\_\_

Don't use the site \_\_\_\_\_